

# EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE

## Patent Abstracts of Japan

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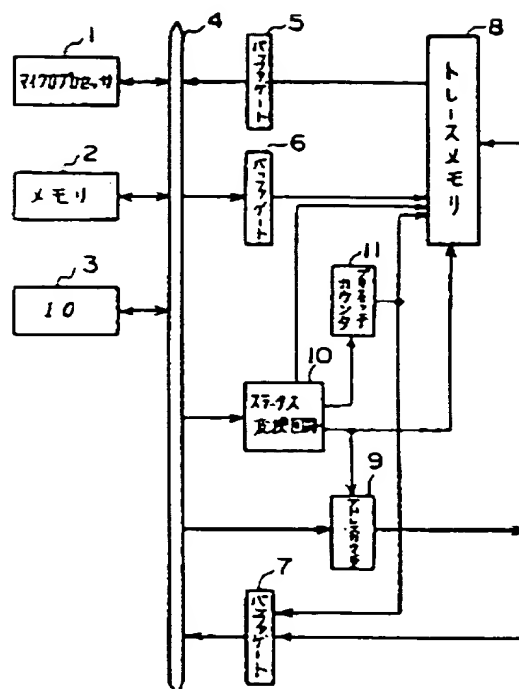
APPLICATION DATE : 29-05-86  
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APPLICANT : MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORP;

INVENTOR : TANAKA HIDEKAZU;

INT.CL. : G06F 11/28 G06F 11/34

TITLE : TRACKING CIRCUIT



ABSTRACT : PURPOSE: To make simultaneous tracing of execution information for instruction and for reading or writing to a memory and I/O possible by providing a prefetch counter that indicates the number of instruction prefetches.

CONSTITUTION: A status converting circuit 10 supervises status and outputs signals that control a trace memory 8, an address counter 9 and a prefetch counter 11. When execution of instruction fetch is known the circuit outputs a count up signal to the counter 11 and when execution of an instruction is known, outputs a count down signal. Accordingly, the counter 11 indicates number of instructions stored in an instruction queue inside of a microprocessor 1, and the number indicates the number of trace information of instructions existing in a memory 8 and not yet executed. Thus, execution information of instructions according to the order of execution can be traced, and execution information for reading or writing to the memory and I/O can be traced simultaneously.

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